

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 09143 251952Z

71

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 OIC-04 COME-00 EB-11 FMC-04 CG-00

COA-02 DLOS-06 DOTE-00 INT-08 OMB-01 CEQ-02 EPA-04

NSF-04 TRSE-00 /189 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1592

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 9143

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: IMCO, PBOR, ETRN, SENV

SUBJECT: IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONFERENCE: LOS ISSUES

REF: STATE 209908, LONDON 12260

1. POL COUNSELOR MET MORNING OF OCTOBER 25 WITH FONOFF ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY, RANKING AVAILABLE VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS COGNIZANT OF IMCO AND LOS MATTERS, BOTH OF WHOM, HOWEVER, WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH PROBLEM OF DRAFT ARTICLE 8 OF THE MARINE POLLUTION CONVENTION.

2. POL COUNSELOR CAREFULLY AND IN DETAIL REVIEWED US OBJECTIONS TO ARTICLE 8, EMPLOYING ARGUMENTS SET OUT IN PARAS 5 AND 7 OF LONDON 12260 AND STRESSING THAT COMMITTEE VERSION OF ARTICLE 8 COULD PREJUDICE LOS CONFERENCE, THAT ISSUES RAISED BY ARTICLE 8 SHOULD BE SETTLED AT LOS CONFERENCE AND NOT AT A TECHNICAL IMCO CONFERENCE, AND THAT ARTICLE 8, NO MATTER HOW DRAFTED, IS UNNECESSARY FOR REALIZATION OF LIMITED OBJECTIVES OF CURRENT IMCO CONFERENCE.

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PAGE 02 CARACA 09143 251952Z

POL COUNSELOR URGED VENEZUELAN DELEGATION BE INSTRUCTED TO VOTE

AGAINST ARTICLE 8 IN PLENARY SESSION.

3. TREJO AND UGUETO STATED THAT THEY FULLY UNDERSTOOD REASONS FOR US OPPOSITION TO ARTICLE 8, BUT THAT MATTER WAS NEW TO THEM AND THAT THEY MUST CONSULT WITH MINISTRY OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS AND OFFICE OF FRONTIERS IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BEFORE A COORDINATED VENEZUELAN POSITION COULD BE DEVELOPED. POL COUNSELOR EMPHASIZED PLENARY SESSION BEGINS OCTOBER 29 AND THAT VOTE ON ARTICLE 8 COULD COME AS EARLY AS THAT DATE, SO THAT SWIFT ACTION IS NECESSARY. TREJO AND UGUETO SAID THAT THEY WOULD CONVEY TO EMBASSY VENEZUELAN POSITION AS SOON AS IT IS FORMULATED, BUT WOULD NOT COMMIT THEMSELVES AS TO WHAT IT MAY BE.
MCCLINTOCK

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